

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A method in a core network node of ~~for handling user equipment in~~ a communications network₁ comprising at least a first access network and a second access network₁ for enabling a user equipment to access said communications network, wherein the first and second access networks have at least a partially overlapping service area, and wherein the user equipment located in a partially overlapping service area can be transferred from the first to the second access network, said method comprising the following steps of:

receiving in said core network node an indication of a request for transferring at least one a user equipment from said first access network to said second access network₁;

checking a transfer permission parameter value associated to _{[[a]]} said user equipment₁;

determining that the transfer permission parameter value indicates that a transfer of the associated user equipment is permitted₁;

determining that the transfer permission parameter value indicates that the user equipment belongs to a group of user equipment₁ for which a preferred access network has been defined₁; and₁

initiating, based on the determination, the transfer of the user equipment from the first to the second access network.

2. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein an access network operates according to the standards defined for of one of a Global System for Mobile Communications, Wideband Code Division Multiple Access, Code Division Multiple Access, and Enhanced Data Rates for Global System for Mobile Communications Evolution.

3. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein the group of user equipment for which a preferred access network has been defined comprises user equipment with service capabilities limited to services which correspond to services supported by the second network.

4. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein the group of user equipment for which a preferred access network has been defined comprises user equipment associated to a subscription having permitted services that are limited to services which correspond to services supported by the second network.

5. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein the group of user equipment for which a preferred access network has been defined comprises user equipment associated to a subscription for which services are permitted that are not supported by the first network.

6. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein the group of user equipment for which a preferred access network has been defined comprises user equipment with service capabilities corresponding to services that are not supported by the first network.

7. (Currently Amended) A device in a core network node of a communications network for selecting user equipment to be transferred from a first access network to a second access network, comprising:

an input output unit for sending and receiving messages, whereby wherein the input output unit is ~~adopted~~ adapted to receive an indication of a request for transferring at least one user equipment from said first access network to said second access network, ~~the device comprising:~~

a processing unit[.,.];

a storage, whereby the storage is adapted to store transfer permission parameter value associated to user equipment[., and];

a determining unit for determining, based on a transfer permission parameter value associated to a user equipment, whether a transmission of the user equipment is permitted, whereby the processing unit is adapted to control the other units[.]; and,

a logical unit adapted to determine, based on the transfer permission parameter value associated to a user equipment, whether the user equipment belongs to a group of user equipment for which a preferred access network has been defined.

8. (Previously Presented) The device according to claim 7, wherein the logical unit determines whether a user equipment belongs to said group by means of analysing a transfer permission parameter value associated to the user equipment.

9. (Cancelled).

10. (Currently Amended) A core network node for performing a subscriber identification analysis, the core network node comprising electronic circuitry for determining, based on a transfer permission parameter value associated to a user equipment, whether a user equipment belongs to a group of user equipment[.], for which a preferred access network has been defined and, if so, for initiating, based on the determination, the transfer of the user equipment from a first to a second access network, said second access network being said preferred access network.

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